

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-2. (Canceled).

3. (Currently Amended) The closure device of claim [[1]] 18, wherein the face of the outer punch is essentially flat.

4. (Currently Amended) The closure device of claim [[1]] 18, wherein the pads are radially oriented on an inner surface of the top wall.

5. (Currently Amended) The closure device of claim 4, wherein the inner surface of the top wall is ~~one of circular, oblong, elliptical, parabolic, spiral, and spherical~~.

6. (Currently Amended) The closure device of claim [[1]] 18, wherein the skirt includes threads configured to interact with a threaded portion of a container neck.

7. (Currently Amended) The closure device of claim [[1]] 18, further comprising a tamper indicating band arranged on the skirt.

8. (Currently Amended) The closure device of claim [[1]] 18, wherein the closure device is made of one of a rigid and semi-rigid material.

9. (Original) The closure device of claim 8, wherein the material includes plastic.

10. (Original) The closure device of claim 8, wherein the material includes polypropylene.

11. (Currently Amended) The closure device of claim [[1]] 18, wherein the closure device is constructed as a single piece.

12- 17 (Canceled).

18. (New) A closure device, comprising:

a top wall;

a skirt depending from the top wall, the skirt having an inner wall;

a plurality of pads arranged circumferentially on the top wall, the pads extending into a space formed by the top wall and the skirt, the space being generally cylindrical with a central axis extending generally parallel to the skirt and generally perpendicular to the top wall, the pads having a first surface extending generally parallel to the axis for abutting an outer edge of a liner and a second surface having a first portion generally perpendicular to the first surface and configured to engage a face of an outer punch of a liner-molding device during compression of the liner material against the top wall by an axially movable inner punch of the liner-molding device and a second portion forming a transition with the inner wall of the skirt, and

spaces between the pads, the spaces being of a size sufficient to vent gas that would be trapped between the top wall and a liner-molding device during molding of a liner material against the top wall.

19. (New) A closure device, comprising:

a top wall having an inner surface and an outer surface;

a skirt depending from the top wall, the skirt having an inner surface and an outer surface, the top wall inner surface and the skirt inner surface forming a cavity having central axis generally perpendicular to the central portion of the top wall inner surface;

a plurality of pads arranged circumferentially on the top wall, the pads extending into the cavity; the pads having a first surface extending generally parallel to the axis for abutting an outer edge of a liner and a second surface having a first portion configured to engage a face of an outer punch of a liner-molding device during compression of the liner material against the top wall by an axially movable inner punch of the liner-molding device, the second surface having a first portion and a second portion, the first portion being generally perpendicular to the first surface, and the second portion forming a transition between the first portion and the inner wall of the skirt, and

spaces between the pads, the spaces being of a size sufficient to vent gas that would be trapped between the top wall and a liner-molding device during molding of a liner material against the top wall.

20. (New) The closure device of claim 18, further including a liner abutting the top wall inner surface and the first surface of the pads.

21. (New) The closure device of claim 19, further including a liner abutting the top wall inner surface and the first surface of the pads.

22. (New) The closure device of claim 20, wherein the liner is formed from moldable material.

23. (New) The closure device of claim 21, wherein the liner is formed from moldable material.

24. (New) The closure device of claim 19, wherein the second portion extends from the first portion along a curve of about 90⁰ to the skirt inner surface forming a transition between the first portion and the inner wall of the skirt.

25. (New) The closure device of claim 19, whereby the skirt inner surface is devoid of any protrusion extending over the first surface such that the inner punch can move axially from outside the closure into the closure to contact the first surface.